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How does my trash get picked up?

Trash hauling services are provided once per week by Republic Services for residential pickup only with 5 or fewer apartments on a single lot. All mixed use, commercial, institutional, and residential properties with 7 or more apartments on a single lot are required to have private haulers. Please click here for more information.

Is there a limit for trash pickup and does Republic Services accept bulk items for trash pickup?

Properties under the city's contract may place the equivalent volume of eight 32-gallon cans each week for pickup. In addition, one bulk item per week may be left at curbside.

How does my recycling get picked up?

Curbside recycling services for residential customers under the city's contract are provided directly by city employees. All mixed use, commercial, institutional, and residential properties with 5 or more apartments on a single lot are required to have private haulers.

Where can I obtain a recycling bin?

Contact the Citizen Service Center at 1-877-727-3234.

What can be picked up by City of Reading's curbside collection program?

[PDF List](#) [1]

Acceptable papers include newspaper, phone books, paperback books, junk mail, gift wrap, gift boxes, corrugated boxes, and food boxes.

Newsprint should be in tied bundles no higher than 12" or placed in brown paper bags or a blue recycling bin.

Flatten boxes and place all items in brown grocery bags.

All cardboard boxes must be cut into pieces smaller than 24".

Acceptable plastics include containers marked with the recycling symbols #1 - #7 on the bottom.

Acceptable cans and metals include aluminum, bimetallic and tin cans, and aluminum pie plates.

Acceptable glass includes green, brown, and clear bottles and jars.

These are comingled recyclables and can be placed in a green recycling bin together.

Remove all lids and all must be rinsed free of residual content.

What cannot be picked up by City of Reading's curbside collection program?

Unaccepted papers include photographs; paper towels, napkins and tissues; and foil wrapping papers.

Unacceptable plastics include plastic bags, Styrofoam items or plastic household items such as toys, appliances, combs, plates, etc.

Unacceptable cans and metals include aluminum foil, aerosol cans or paint cans.

Unacceptable glass includes window glass, light bulbs, drinking glasses, broken bottles, mirrors, kitchen ware or Pyrex glass.

Other Special Waste Situations

Please visit the [Berks County Solid Waste Authority's website](#)^[2] for a myriad of resources including how to dispose other recyclable materials like Hazardous Waste, Electronics, and Pharmaceutical Collections in an environmentally safe, reliable and efficient manner. If you're interested in composting, please visit [Bokashi Boss](#)^[3].

I just moved to Reading, how do I start up service for trash/recycling & billing?

Residents will need to contact the Citizens Service Center at 1-877-727-3234.

Source URL (retrieved on Feb 8 2017 - 5:48pm): <https://www.readingpa.gov/content/trash-and-recycling-frequently-asked-questions>

Links:

[1] <https://www.readingpa.gov/content/recycling-items>

[2] <http://www.co.berks.pa.us/swa>

[3] <https://www.bokashiboss.com/>